

PFAS Talking Points - Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Superfund Site
New Jersey
February 12, 2019

BACKGROUND:

- Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JBMDL) is approximately 16.1 miles from Trenton, New Jersey. Ft. Dix, an Army base, and Lakehurst, a Navy facility, is now under the jurisdiction of the USAF Air Mobility Command when it was consolidated with the adjoining Air Force facility (McGuire) to become JBMDL.
- Cleanup activities are managed through the Air Force.
- Since early 2015, the Air Force has been investigating PFAS at JBMDL.
- In August of 2015, a 34 potential PFAS sources were identified at JBMDL: 21 sites at McGuire, 5 sites at Dix, and 8 sites at Lakehurst.
- In July of 2016, on-base sampling found extremely high levels of PFAS (over 200,000 parts per trillion (ppt)) mainly caused by fire training areas, crash sites and other areas utilizing fire-fighting foams containing the PFAS compounds.
- All of the on-base drinking water wells are 800 to 900 feet deep, tapping into the deeper aquifers that are not impacted by PFAS contamination.
- In October 2016, JBMDL expanded its site investigation to determine if the contaminant has traveled off-base.
- Sampling of private drinking water wells in areas within a two-mile distance downgradient of the JBMDL was performed. As of Dec. 2018, 188 wells were sampled and results indicated only five private wells located downgradient from the JBMDL-Lakehurst boundary exceeded the EPA Health Advisory Level of 70ppt. These wells were provided bottled water while installing GAC or reverse osmosis treatment units. No other results off-base were above the health advisory level.

KEY POINTS:

- JBMDL is listed on the Superfund National Priorities List.
- EPA and New Jersey are working together with JBMDL in assessing and investigating PFAS.
- JBMDL has reached agreement to connect two of the private wells off-base to the public water supply. Construction is planned to begin in the spring of 2019 and JBMDL is seeking approval for connecting a third property.

TALKING POINTS:

- JBMDL continues to reach out to private well owners who did not respond or consented to well testing.
- EPA, NJDEP, and the Air Force are finalizing the PFAS expanded site investigation work plans. After all off-site mitigation work has been completed, the Air Force will begin the remedial investigation of these sites to determine the nature and extent of PFAS contamination.